

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

GCC:mmh

TO : Mr. A. Rosen

FROM : Mr. G. C. Callan

SUBJECT: WILLIAM BERNARD WERNECKE
Selective Service

DATE: May 5, 1945

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Reference is made to my memorandum of April 21, 1945. Wernecke, as you remember, was a prominent Nazi sympathizer who was convicted of violating the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940 as amended, in the Northern District of Illinois and was sentenced to serve 5 years and pay a fine of \$10,000. A newspaper article appeared in the Chicago-American March 27, 1945, indicating that Wernecke had been paroled. This newspaper article occasioned my reference memorandum.

In accordance with your instructions, I checked our Identification Section and through Mr. Hallett's office ascertained that Wernecke had been paroled from the Federal Institution at Springfield, Missouri, on August 16, 1944. He apparently entered the custody of the Attorney General on January 11, 1944. He had been sentenced on June 11, 1943, but the delay in his commencing the sentence was occasioned by his appeal to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. His appeal of course was denied.

Mr. Ladd recently attended the Attorney General's Staff Conference, at which time a discussion arose over the merits of Wernecke's parole between Mr. James McGranery and Mr. Jim Bennett. McGranery criticized the parole severely. Bennett admitted a mistake had been made but attempted to justify the parole by stating that Wernecke had a good record since he had been in the Army, so good in fact that he had been assigned to Military Intelligence.

At Mr. Ladd's suggestion, through Mr. Hallett's office, I ascertained that Wernecke was inducted into the armed services on August 17, 1944, as a private in the army, Army serial number 37645234, at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri. Also, at Mr. Ladd's suggestion, I requested the Liaison Section of the Security Division to ascertain if Wernecke was still in the army, and if so, whether or not he was attached to Military Intelligence or just exactly what he was doing.

RECORDED

Supervisor Reynolds in the Liaison Section has ascertained that Wernecke, as of January 11, 1945, was assigned to Company D, 393d Military Police Battalion, Camp Sibert, Alabama. This information was procured from the Adjutant General's Office. It is the last address which the AGO has concerning him. It appears, therefore, that Mr. Bennett, following his usual custom, was inaccurate in the statement he made at the Attorney General's Staff Conference. The question still arises, however, as to whether we should advise the War Department of the character and reputation of this man prior to the time he entered the armed services. It appears to me that as a matter of cooperation and self-protection, we should tell the War Department just what they have in subject Wernecke. It would enable them to appropriately assign him from a security standpoint.

COPIES DESTROYED
R 95 MAY 26 1961

Memorandum for Mr. Rosen

According to a list of prisoner of war camps received from the War Department dated April 23, 1945, a prisoner of war camp has been established at Camp Sibert, Alabama in addition to the military post. This prisoner of war camp will have a capacity of 800. At this time there are 33 non-commissioned officers at the camp and 299 enlisted men among the prisoners. It would appear that a man of Wernecke's caliber and definite pro-Nazi sympathies up to a year ago should not be assigned in any position in which he has any contact with prisoners of war.

In attempting to verify Wernecke's parole, Mr. Hallett was advised that the Bureau of Prisons had notified us of his parole on September 7, 1944. A check of our Identification records reveals that this statement is technically correct. His name was included in a list of approximately 50 who had been paroled from the Springfield Institution during the previous two months.

The thought has occurred to me that in those instances in which we have a particularly vicious subject as in Wernecke's case, that it might be a good idea if the supervisors were instructed to write a memorandum to Bennett when we run across a case of this kind asking him to advise us by memorandum of the contemplated parole of the individual. Of course in most instances we couldn't do anything about it, but it might act as a coercive measure to prevent repetition in instances of this nature.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that this memorandum be submitted to Mr. Ladd, who may desire to have the Liaison Section acquaint the appropriate authorities in G-2 of Wernecke's character and reputation.

[Handwritten signature]

*Copies of investigative
reports furnished Capt.
T.W. Simpson, H15
6/25/45
S.J.*

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

GCC/ms

TO : MR. A. ROSEN

DATE: May 26, 1945

FROM : Mr. G. C. Callan

SUBJECT: WILLIAM BERNARD WERNECKE, was.
SELECTIVE SERVICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

You will recall this subject, who was one of the most subversive German-American Bundists who has come to our attention, received a parole on August 18, 1944 after having been sentenced to serve 5 years in the custody of the Attorney General for violation of the Selective Training and Service Act. This parole was granted after Wernecke had served not more than 8 months of his 5 year sentence. We have furnished G-2 copies of our reports on this individual.

Attached is a copy of Form CI-RPD of the War Department which is a review form of Wernecke's War Department file.. On the reverse side the statement is made, "Nothing Derogatory as to Loyalty." This means that the War Department had no information concerning the subversive nature of this man at the time he was parolled.

It appears that the parole authorities of the Department are so anxious to get some of these Selective Service subjects out of the penitentiary, and are so callous that they are willing to gamble with the welfare of the Army and the internal security of the nation by sending parolees out to the Army without advising the Army of information definitely indicating strong subversive tendencies and even known associations with enemy agents on the part of the parolees.

RECOMMENDATION:

I wanted to call this to your attention because I thought you might wish to mention it to the incoming Attorney General, Mr. Tom C. Clark. I also thought that Mr. Pennington might be interested in this angle because it is a classic example of the manner in which malicious and even subversive Selective Service violators are being coddled by parole authorities.

Attachment

EX -

RECORDED

EX - 59

EX - 32

61-8118-142

60 JUN 15 1945 154

The Attorney General

June 9, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

PAROLE PRACTICES - SELECTIVE TRAINING AND SERVICE ACT

RECORDED

61-8118-143

Recently it has come to my attention that William Bernard Wernecke received a parole on August 18, 1944, after serving not more than eight months of a 5 years sentence imposed upon him in the Northern District of Illinois for violation of the Selective Training and Service Act.

Wernecke was convicted on June 11, 1943. He appealed his conviction and the conviction was affirmed by the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit.

Wernecke was an active supporter of the German-American Bund in Illinois and held meetings of a subversive nature at his farm. Investigation conducted by this Bureau showed that he was an intimate acquaintance of such individuals as Herber Haupt, Nazi saboteur who was executed, George Froese, and Otto Willumeit, both of whom were notorious leaders of the German-American Bund in the mid-west area.

A search of Wernecke's premises, incidental to his arrest, disclosed 8 rifles, 6 pistols, 3 shotguns, a large supply of ammunition, and Nazi propaganda. The records of the War Department indicate that none of this information was furnished to the War Department when Wernecke was paroled to enter the army on August 18, 1944. The War Department's file contains the statement, "nothing derogatory as to loyalty". After Wernecke had been convicted, he indicated a willingness to enter the armed services of this country, and in sentencing, Federal Judge John P. Barnes remarked that Wernecke would be the last man he would allow to enter the armed services. Despite this, due to the operation of the parole provisions of the Selective Training and Service Act, Wernecke has entered the armed forces, above mentioned, within eight months after he had commenced his 5-year sentence.

Recently the Los Angeles Office of this Bureau received an inquiry from the Glendale, California, Police Department concerning Emanuel Jerome Alfonso Pedro De Bourbon. He had been seen on the streets of Glendale, California. The police department was under the impression that he was serving sentence for violation of the Selective Training and Service Act. De Bourbon had been sentenced on January 5, 1945, to serve a term of 18 months. At the time he was sentenced, Judge Michael Moene in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, in answer to a plea for probation, stated, "there are too many young men of our country being shot down and killed while others like you are shirking their patriotic duty and are peddling cheap booze in a grog shop". Judge Moene then stated that De Bourbon did not merit probation and thereupon proceeded to impose the above mentioned sentence. The Bureau has now received information that De Bourbon was paroled on May 24, 1945.

I have brought these two cases to your attention because I feel that they exemplify an undesirable trend in the granting of paroles to subjects convicted of violating the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940, as amended. I realize of course

SENT FROM D. O.

TIME 3:50PM

DATE 6-11-45

BY 1BH

58 JUN 27 1945

The Attorney General

that individuals convicted of this Act may be paroled at any time after their conviction, but I wish to bring this to your attention because I feel that the lack of selectivity in the granting of paroles to such individuals as Kernecke and De Bourbon is definitely undesirable.

cc: Mr. McManery

COPY:new

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

GCC:mmh

TO : The Director

DATE: June 1, 1945

FROM : Mr. A. Rosen

SUBJECT: EMANUEL JEROME ALFONSO PEDRO DE BOURBON, was
Dorothy Virginia Yancey, was. - Victim
Selective Service - White Slave Traffic Act

You will recall that William Bernard Wernecke, the notorious German-American Bund leader from the Chicago area, was paroled on August 16, 1944, after he had served less than eight months of a 5 year sentence imposed upon him for violation of the Selective Training and Service Act.

As you know, under the Selective Training and Service Act, a convict does not have to serve one-third of a sentence before being paroled, but may be the recipient of a parole at any time after his conviction.

Another case, involving the subject De Bourbon, has now come to the Bureau's attention, indicating the very loose manner in which paroles are being granted to Selective Service subjects.

De Bourbon claims to be the son of the late Don Luis De Bourbon, a member of the royal family of Spain and a distant relative of the King of Spain. The subject was arrested by the Berkeley Police Department, Berkeley, California, on a charge of drunkenness. At that time he was in possession of the Selective Service cards of a man named John Ernest Brown. He had stolen Brown's Selective Service cards. The subject's occupation was that of a bartender. He was subsequently indicted in the Northern District of California for failure to register, failure to possess registration certificate and classification cards, and the wrongful possession of a Selective Service registration certificate and of a classification card belonging to another person. He pleaded guilty to the first count of the indictment charging him with failure to register and the other counts were dismissed.

On January 5, 1945, he was sentenced by Judge Michael Roche to serve 18 months in an institution to be designated by the Attorney General. At the time Judge Roche sentenced him, the subject requested to be placed on probation. Judge Roche stated, "There are too many young men of our country being shot down and killed while others like you are shirking their patriotic duty and are peddling cheap booze in a grog shop".

On May 31, the Washington Field Office received a teletype from our Los Angeles Office advising that officers of the Glendale Police Department had seen the subject on the streets of Glendale and the police had inquired of the Los Angeles Office whether the subject had been paroled. FBI Identification Division files do not reflect the subject's parol. Supervisor G. C. Allan ascertained from the Department that the subject had been paroled on May 24, 1945. Apparently the Bureau of Prisons from which this information was obtained has not yet notified our Identification

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL - 8

66-5118-143
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 13 1945
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 66-5118-143

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

SI:edm

TO :

MR. D. M. LADD

DATE: 6/23/45

FROM :

Mr. S. S. Alden

SUBJECT:

WILLIAM BERNARD WERNECKE
SELECTIVE SERVICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

Major Thomas W. Simpson, Washington Liaison Branch, MIS, has advised that information has been received from Colonel Alton C. Miller, Director, Security and Investigations Division, Provost Marshal General's Office, that the Commanding General of the Fourth Service Command has been requested to transfer Wernecke immediately to an organization having no security function and further, to an organization in which he will not have access to prisoners of war. The Provost Marshal General also recommended that proceedings be initiated to have Wernecke placed in a War Department special organization in accordance with the rules governing the disposition of subversive and disaffected military personnel.

Major Simpson has promised to furnish the Bureau details of the final action taken in this case.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

It is recommended that this memorandum be routed to the Investigative Division for the attention of Mr. G. C. Callan.

RECORDED

EX-72

161-8118-144
FBI
29 JUL 14 1945

Memo A.G.
9-45
57 AUG 13 1945 1/5

OCC:mmb

The Attorney General

July 9, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

PAROLE PRACTICES

Selective Training and Service Act

Reference is made to the memorandum of the Director of the Bureau of Prisons, Mr. James Bennett, to you dated June 16, 1945, concerning the parole of William B. Garnecke and Manuel De Bourbon, Selective Service violators.

Concerning Mr. Bennett's suggestion that the Federal Bureau of Investigation file a caveat with the Bureau of Prisons or that it transmit information to the Bureau of Prisons concerning persons convicted of violating the Selective Training and Service Act, when it deems to be potentially dangerous to the military forces, I do not feel that such a procedure is necessary.

Copies of all investigative reports of this Bureau in these matters are transmitted to the Division of Records, and would therefore, I presume, be available to the personnel of the Bureau of Prisons. It would appear, therefore, that a communication from this Bureau to the Bureau of Prisons in a particular case would merely constitute a duplication of information previously furnished to the Division of Records.

Mr. Bennett's memorandum to you which you made available to me for my information is returned herewith.

enclosure

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
FBI

JUL 12 9 13 AM '45

RECORDED
INDEXED
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Bureau of Prisons
Washington 25

June 16, 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL:

RE: Parole of Selective Service Violators
Wernecke and de Bourbon

You have asked for my comment on Mr. Hoover's memorandum of June 9, 1945 in which he indicates that it was undesirable to parole William B. Wernecke and Emanuel de Bourbon, Selective Service violators. Both of these men were paroled for induction into the armed services.

You will perhaps recall that Mr. McGranery discussed at a staff meeting the parole of Wernecke in view of his previous activities and Bundist connections. It was brought out both by Mr. McGranery and myself that the parole of Wernecke was approved in the Department after recommendation by the Special Panel Selective Service Board without our knowledge of his previous activities. The information in our files did not indicate the extent to which Wernecke was engaged in Bundist activities, and we assumed that since he was acceptable to the Army there was no reason why he should not be released to military control. Frankly, if we had had the information concerning Wernecke that Mr. Hoover has now given us, we would not have recommended his parole. Incidentally, when the case was called to my attention some time ago we checked upon his adjustment in the Army and we are now advised that he is getting along quite satisfactorily and, as a matter of fact, has been assigned to some special duty. We understand that before a special duty assignment is made the Army makes a careful examination of the individual's record and activities. If he gets into difficulty in the Army or is discharged as undesirable, his parole will, of course, be revoked.

Similarly, in the case of de Bourbon there is nothing in our files to indicate that he should not have been considered under the usual procedure authorizing the parole of Selective Service violators for induction into the armed services. The statement by Judge Roche does not appear in our files. On the contrary, there is a recommendation by United States Attorney Hennessy that de Bourbon be paroled in the event he was willing to accept induction into the armed forces.

We have no information as to his adjustment in the Army but we assume he is getting along satisfactorily. Incidentally, de Bourbon has no prior record except two arrests for drunkenness, in both of which cases he was fined and the cases were then dismissed. I do not know what he was doing on the streets of Glendale, California unless he was in uniform or enroute to the camp where he was ordered to report.

These cases, as you know, are examined and passed upon first by the Special Panel Selective Service Boards, composed of at least two citizens appointed by the Selective Service Director and one of our institutional officials, then the applicants are taken to the Army induction station where they are examined among other things for moral fitness, and finally their records are checked both in this office and in Mr. McGranery's office. We do not, however, have in all cases the detailed information in the possession of the Bureau of Investigation and whenever any Selective Service violator is known to the Bureau of Investigation to be undesirable material for the Army or potentially dangerous to the military forces, it would be most helpful if the information were transmitted to this Bureau or a caveat filed with us. There is, of course, no disposition on the part of anyone in this office or our Parole Board to recommend the release of any wilful or flagrant violator of the draft act or anyone who might jeopardize the war effort even though he is acceptable to the military authorities.

/s/ JVB

Director

RECORDED
63

61-8118 - 147
SAC, Chicago

December 10, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

WILLIAM BERNARD WERNECKE, was.
SELECTIVE SERVICE
ESPIONAGE G
Your file 65-582

Reference is made to your letter to the Bureau dated November 9, 1945.

By referenced communication you indicated that the subject owned eleven pieces of property and one farm bequeathed to him by his mother. The sentence of this subject at the time of his conviction for violation of the Selective Training and Service Act was for five years and a fine of \$10,000.

You are instructed to immediately ascertain from the United States District Court in Chicago whether the subject paid the \$10,000 fine imposed upon him and, if not, the reason why the fine was not paid. Upon obtaining this information, the Bureau should be advised in detail.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

DEC 11 1945
MPC:JAR

Re file
h

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
 FROM : SAC, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
 SUBJECT: WILLIAM BERNARD WERNECKE, was
 SELECTIVE SERVICE
 ESPIONAGE G
 (Bureau File 61-8118)

DATE: November 9, 1945

The following information has been received from the Security and Intelligence Division at Chicago, concerning the above-captioned subject:

"Private William B. Wernecke, ASN 37645234, was discharged from the military service at Fort Sheridan, Illinois, 24 September 1945, under the provisions of War Department Circular 269 (1945) AR 615-369.

"The home address of Wernecke is listed as: care of Wernecke Farms, Huntley, Illinois.

"The files of this office indicate Wernecke was a friend of Herbert Haupt, Nazi saboteur, and Dr. Otto Willumeit, Chicago Bund leader, and was active in the affairs of the German-American Bund. Wernecke was convicted and sentenced to a five year prison term and fined \$10,000 for a violation of the Selective Training and Service Act and commenced service of his prison term 11 January 1944. On 16 August 1944 he was paroled from the federal institution at Springfield, Missouri, and on 17 August 1944 inducted into the U. S. Army."

The Security and Intelligence Division also advised that when the subject was stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington, the Personal Affairs Branch at the Fort received a letter from a Miss MARCELLA MISAVICE, 6250 Wayne Avenue, Chicago, who wrote that when the subject entered the Army he left in her charge eleven pieces of property and one farm bequeathed to him by his mother. Miss MISAVICE described the difficulties of managing these properties and requested that the subject be given a three weeks furlough to assist her in straightening out his affairs. There is no indication as to whether or not this furlough was granted.

It should be pointed out that Miss MISAVICE had been previously employed and lived with the subject and his mother for about five years until some time in 1941 when she ran away from them because WERNECKE molested her.

In November 1941, Miss MISAVICE voluntarily called at this office and furnished the information that the subject was outspokenly pro-Nazi and engaged in un-American activities. She admitted that WERNECKE had frequently made improper advances to her and that she had had immoral relations with him on numerous occasions explaining that she did so because of a fear of him.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

61-8118-147
25 NOV 10 1945
EX-45

COPIES DESTROYED
R 95 MAY 26 1961

12/10/45
to Chicago

Letter, DIRECTOR FBI
November 9, 1945

-2-

RE: WILLIAM BERNARD WERNECKE, was
SELECTIVE SERVICE
ESPIONAGE - G.
(Bureau File 61-8118)

The above data is being furnished to the Bureau for informational purposes. No action is contemplated by this office unless instructions to the contrary are received.

GAS:MHB
25-5976
CC: Chicago File 65-582

HNB

61-8118-148
CHANGED TO
100-344245-X

C

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: January 5, 1946

FROM : SAC, CHICAGO

SUBJECT: WILLIAM BERNARD WERNECKE, WAS.
SELECTIVE SERVICE
ESPIONAGE - G
(Bureau File #61-8118)

Reference is made to your letter dated December 10, 1945 asking that it be ascertained whether the above-captioned subject had ever paid the \$10,000 fine imposed upon him.

According to the records of the Clerk of the United States District Court at Chicago this fine has not yet been paid.

Upon learning this information, the matter was discussed with Assistant United States Attorney KENNETH NATHAN, who handles civil actions concerning the collection of fines. Mr. NATHAN explained that the reason why this fine had not yet come to his attention as an uncollected item was because the subject had been paroled from the Federal Penitentiary prior to serving his full sentence of five years, and that ordinarily a check as to whether or not a fine has been remitted is not made until the subject has completed serving his sentence.

Mr. NATHAN has requested this office to get in touch with the Federal Penitentiary from which the subject was paroled to the army to learn whether any arrangements were made at the time of parole for disposition of his fine.

Unless advised to the contrary, this office will write direct to the institution concerning this matter. You will be promptly informed as to further developments in connection with this case.

GAS:mel
65-582
cc-25-5976

RECORDED

61-8118-149
2 JAN 9 194671
58 FEB 8 1946Chifas
Harvey
W. H. H.

OK

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: March 4, 1946

FROM : SAC, Chicago

SUBJECT: WILLIAM BERNARD WERNECKE, was.
SELECTIVE SERVICE
ESPIONAGE - G
(Bureau file 61-8118)

Reference is made to the letter to the Bureau from this office, dated January 5, 1946. It has now been ascertained that the United States Attorney has requested the United States Marshal's Office, Chicago, Illinois, to attempt to collect the \$10,000 fine outstanding against the subject in connection with his sentence for violation of the Selective Training and Service Act.

Chief Deputy J. E. TOBIN, Chicago, Illinois, has advised that execution order number 14579 has been issued for the collection of the \$10,000 fine, but that up to the present time the subject has not been located by his office. Mr. TOBIN was furnished the latest address of the subject known to this office.

The records of instant case have been examined at the Office of the Clerk of the Court, Chicago, Illinois, which show that the subject was committed on December 15, 1943 to Springfield Camp, Missouri, and that on January 26, 1944 the commitment was returned executed. The records show that on January 13, 1944 the subject was turned over to the Springfield Camp, which is the camp used for the induction into the Armed Forces of persons under sentence. It appears from the records that the subject at no time was incarcerated in federal prison.

In view of the fact that the United States Marshal's Office is presently active in connection with the collection of the fine against the subject, no further action is contemplated by this office, unless advised to the contrary.

cc: 25-5976

WRP:eak

65-582

RECORDED

EX - 7

30
57 MAR 19 1946

61-8118-150
1 MAR 6 1946
9/24/46
150

SAC, Chicago

March 24, 1949

Director, FBI

WILLIAM BERNARD VERNECKE, was.
SELECTIVE SERVICE

Reference is made to your letter of March 4, 1946, advising that the United States Marshal's Office was attempting to collect the \$10,000 fine outstanding against the captioned subject and that Chief Deputy Marshal J. E. Tobin was furnished the latest address of the subject known to your office.

For your information, there appeared in the Washington Times Herald of March 6, 1949, a photograph of a Mrs. Veronica Vernecke, described as age 30 and a former airline stewardess. The item appearing beneath the photograph reads as follows: "FLEES HUSBAND - Charging she had been kidnaped and held prisoner for eight hours by her husband, Mrs. Veronica Vernecke, 30, a former airline stewardess, yesterday took refuge in the home of her Chicago attorney. Police described Vernecke as a former Bund leader."

You may desire to furnish the above information to the United States Marshal at Chicago inasmuch as it apparently relates to the captioned subject.

61-8118

130
RECORDED - 130

EX-14

25 1949

ENC
EX-14
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
MAR 24 1949 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

HP:smvd

56 MAR 30 1949



International Soundphoto

Flees Husband

Charging she had been kidnaped and held prisoner for eight hours by her husband, Mrs. Veronica Wernecke, 30, a former airline stewardess, yesterday took refuge in the home of her Chicago attorney. Police described Wernecke as a former Bund leader.

*Am Veronica Wernecke
3/18*

*Let Chicago
3/24/49
K.C.*

Baumgardner

*Suppl. Service
SIX-102*

61-8118-151

ENCLOSURE

This clipping is from
the morning edition of
The Washington Times Herald

3-6-49
Date

SAC, Chicago (65-582)

REC-27

January 12, 1959

Director, FBI (61-8118) - 152

EX-102

WILLIAM B. WERNECKE
RACIAL MATTERS

Sub

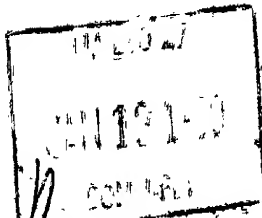
Reur memo 12-31-58. Future
communications should bear the sole character
"Racial Matters."

Authority granted to interview
Wernecke.

WLM:ers
(4)

*0-1 from Chicago 2/19/59
Rpt. will be sub 3/3/59
Subst interview 2/10/59
7258*

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Nease _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Trotter _____
Clayton _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____



MAIL ROOM ☒

WBN

JAN 13 1959

[Signature]

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (61-8118)

DATE: December 31, 1958

FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (65-582)

SUBJECT: WILLIAM B. WERNECKE
INTERNAL SECURITY - X (RACIAL MATTERS)

An investigation of WILLIAM B. WERNECKE is being conducted by the Chicago Office as indicated in the Chicago letter dated November 28, 1958, submitted with a closing report of SA PAUL M. GRIBER entitled, "NATIONALIST CONSERVATIVE PARTY, IS - X (RACIAL MATTERS)" made at Chicago, also dated November 28, 1958. (Bureau file 105-39508, Chicago file 105-2790)

The above report reflected that WERNECKE personally visited the Chicago Office on October 16, 1958, concerning another matter relating to possible WSTA violation on the part of his estranged wife. After he completed furnishing the data on the WSTA matter, WERNECKE voluntarily furnished information concerning his residence and employment and the fact that he was an official in the American Humane Society. He stated that he was acquainted with EUSTACE MULLINS and MATTHIAS KOEHL, both of Chicago, and furnished their respective residences. Both MULLINS and KOEHL are subjects of Racial Matter investigations of the Chicago Office. He also claimed to be uninformed concerning the bombings in Atlanta, Georgia, and Peoria, Illinois. He excused himself from the interview because of another commitment.

During the above interview WERNECKE exhibited a friendly and most cooperative attitude and stated that if he learned of any information of interest to the FBI, he would notify this office.

On December 22, 1958, WERNECKE telephonically contacted SA [redacted] and advised that he had learned that an inquiry had been made concerning his possession of explosives. He claimed that he was calling to express his willingness to assist the FBI in any way he could. WERNECKE voluntarily admitted possessing a quantity of black powder which he indicated was used to load shotgun shells and admitted possessing blasting caps which are used in dynamiting tree stumps on his farm in Huntley, Illinois.

② - Bureau (Registered)

4 - Chicago

(1 - 105-2790 (NATIONALIST CONSERVATIVE PARTY) JAN 5 1959

(1 - 98-1890 (BOMBINGS AND ATTEMPTED BOMBINGS)

(1 - 98-1891 (ATLANTA BOMBING)

PMG:bpw

(6)

REC-31

61-2118-152

CG 65-582

WERNECKE was advised that the FBI was most appreciative for receiving any information pertaining to violation of laws of the United States and he should also feel free to furnish this office with any information coming to his attention concerning acts of violence against any racial or religious groups.

In view of the apparent cooperative attitude displayed by WERNECKE and his willingness to furnish information concerning individuals considered to be capable of extremist activities, Bureau authority is requested to interview WERNECKE for the purpose of determining the extent of his knowledge of individuals engaged in racist activities. The utmost discretion will be used to allow WERNECKE to volunteer all he knows concerning other individuals without disclosing the Bureau's interest in WERNECKE, himself. This office will also accept any other information he cares to volunteer concerning his activities.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE CHICAGO	OFFICE OF ORIGIN CHICAGO	DATE 2-27-59	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 2/10-24/59
TITLE OF CASE WILLIAM B. WERNECKE		REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 20px;"></div>	TYPED BY JEM b6 b7C
		CHARACTER OF CASE RACIAL MATTERS	

~~EXHIBIT~~

REFERENCES: Bulet to Chicago dated 1/12/59.
Chicago letter to Bureau dated 12/31/58.

- C -

ADMINISTRATIVE

WILLIAM WERNECKE was cooperative during the interview on February 10, 1959 to the extent that he would answer direct questions but hesitated to volunteer any more information than what was necessary. WERNECKE seemed rational during the interview until DADISHOU NICHOLAS' name was mentioned, when he became excited and threatened NICHOLAS with physical harm. This interview was conducted along the line set forth in referenced Chicago letter.

It is to be noted that WERNECKE's reliability is unknown. Numerous bombing cases were discussed with WERNECKE but he denied any participation in any acts of violence.

APPROVED <div style="text-align: center;"><i>R. D. G.</i></div>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE: (5) - Bureau (61-8118) (RM) 1 - G-2, Chicago (RM) 1 - ONI, Chicago (RM) 1 - OSI, Chicago (RM) 1 - Atlanta (Info) (RM) 1 - Cincinnati (Info) (RM) 1 - Louisville (Info) (RM) 1 - Miami (Info) (RM) 1 - Springfield (Info) (RM) 3 - Chicago (65-582)		61-8118-153	REC- 93
		12 MAR 2 1959	EX- 105

53 MAR 9 1959

COVER PAGE

AGENCY *E-2; ONE; OST; J...*
 REQ. REC'D
 DATE FORW. *3/6/59*
 HOW FORW. *P/S*
 BY *WLM/jm*

CG 65-582

WERNECKE blamed all of his troubles on the fact that his wife, RUTH WERNECKE, has left him and due to the fact that DADISHOU NICHOLAS swindled him out of some money during the sale of his real estate. Information has been previously furnished to the Bureau regarding NICHOLAS in the case entitled, "THREATENED BOMBING OF THE RESIDENCE OF DADISHOU NICHOLAS, Chicago, Illinois." Information concerning the other suspects residing in the Chicago area mentioned in this report has been previously furnished to the Bureau.

WERNECKE was not questioned regarding his background or his activities prior to and during World War II as this information is well known to the Bureau and the Chicago Office.

For information of interested offices, WERNECKE was formerly a member of the German American Bund and the Knights of the White Camellia. WERNECKE was also a friend and associate of HERBERT HANS HAUPT, a convicted and executed German saboteur. In 1943, WERNECKE was sentenced to five years imprisonment for violation of the Selective Service Act.

It is to be further noted that in October, 1958, WERNECKE called at the Chicago Office and complained about a WSTA violation concerning his wife RUTH WERNECKE and DADISHOU NICHOLAS who both allegedly traveled to Iowa in violation of this act; however, investigation failed to bear out any violation. On October 20, 1958, RUTH WERNECKE denied any participation and violation of this Act. Mr. and Mrs. DADISHOU NICHOLAS in October of 1958, also denied any possible WSTA violation on the part of DADISHOU NICHOLAS.

According to Lieutenant MARTIN JOYCE of the Chicago Police Department, WERNECKE has been recently writing letters and sending them through the United States mail to NICHOLAS using obscene language. The Postal Inspector's Office in Chicago is currently making inquiry into this matter. After WERNECKE's arrest on February 16, 1959, the Alcohol Tax Unit of the Treasury Department, examined WERNECKE's guns to determine whether he had violated the Federal Firearms Law. The result of their inquiry is not known.

CG 65-582

.. It is to be further noted that a search of the description of WERNECKE's guns through the National Stolen Property File at the Bureau disclosed that a .270 rifle, Serial Number 142812 with a mounted telescopic sight number 2078858 was stolen on January 2, 1958. Further inquiry into this matter will be conducted under the classification of Theft of Government Property.

Since WERNECKE's arrest by the Chicago Police Department, he has received considerable publicity in Chicago newspapers.

One copy of this report is being furnished the Atlanta, Cincinnati, Louisville, Miami, and Springfield Offices for information purposes.

In view of the above, it is felt that no useful purpose could be served in continuing the investigation in this matter under this caption, therefore this case is being closed.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (61-8118)

DATE: 8/25/59

FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (65-582)

Attention: Identification Division

SUBJECT: WILLIAM B. WERNECKE
BOMBING MATTERS
OO: Chicago

Re Chicago letter to Director, dated 8/5/59, captioned "KLAN ORGANIZATIONS, HATE ORGANIZATIONS AND RACIAL INFORMANTS, RACIAL MATTERS, BOMBING MATTERS".

By referenced letter, this Division changed the designation of captioned individual from that of racial extremist to potential bombing suspect.

In accordance with Bureau instructions, Manual of Instructions, Section 23 (D) investigation has been conducted concerning subject as a potential suspect in bombing matters in this Division.

WERNECKE has reportedly bragged that he has in the past taken part in the bombing of a Chicago, Illinois Department store, and has also been concerned in the bombing of tombstones in Jewish cemeteries. He reportedly has instructed others in the use of explosives, and has been described as being capable of inciting others to acts of violence. Investigation has disclosed that he has done a considerable amount of dynamiting of tree stumps and water ponds on his farm, and therefore would have the necessary knowledge in the use of that type of explosive.

In view of above, the Latent Fingerprint Section is requested to include WILLIAM B. WERNECKE, FBI Number 2970391 in the Single Fingerprint explosives File.

2-Bureau (RM)
1-Chicago
RJD/rjd
(3)

REC-96

EX 109

3 AUG 27 1959

57 AUG 31 1959

REC'D - IDENT DIV
FBI
AUG 27 1959
AUG 27 1959
AUG 27 1959

F B I

Date: 1/31/61

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Malone	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Ingram	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (61-8118)

FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (65-582)

WILLIAM B. WERNECKE
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Chicago Office received a communication postmarked 1/30/61 from WILLIAM B. WERNECKE, Huntley, Illinois, which letter contained the statement that WERNECKE had written the same material to several United States Senators and they were quite pleased to receive the information.

The letter refers to an enclosed letter which contains numerous allegations relative to the "Playboy" Magazine, a magazine of national distribution, the Playboy Lounge, a cocktail lounge situated in Chicago and the publishers of the magazine. The letter generally refers to the pornographic manner in which the pictures are placed in the magazine and the activities of the waitresses employed at the Playboy lounge. No specific allegations of white slave traffic act or ITOM were listed in the letter. WERNECKE in his letter to the Chicago Office stated that he requested that FBI Agent BONNER not be assigned this case as the writer had reason to believe BONNER is not acting properly in white slave matters and that he acts in "colution" with white slavers.

For the information of the Bureau, WERNECKE is the subject of numerous items of correspondence relating to bombing matters, espionage and racial matters in the Chicago Division.

SA JAMES F. BONNER had contact with WILLIAM B. WERNECKE in August, 1958, at which time WERNECKE reported that his wife (common law) and one TADISHAU NICHOLAS had

③ - Bureau
1 - Chicago

52 FEB 1 6 1961
HDS: BUD

(4)

XEROX
FEB 15 1961
VP

REC-20

61-8118-155

FEB 2 1961

WICK
Approved: _____

Sent _____ M Per _____

50 MAR 9 1961
Special Agent in Charge

CG 65-582

traveled in interstate commerce for immoral purposes. Investigation conducted that time failed to verify any of the information consistent to that furnished by WERNECKE and the matter was declined by the USA at Chicago because of the inconsistent nature of the stories and if the facts ~~if~~ alleged by WERNECKE were true such was not corroborated by the victim.

On 10/20/58 RUTH WERNECKE advised that the subject WILLIAM B. WERNECKE is a very unstable individual under the care of a psychiatrist identified as Dr. HANS DEUTSCH, Chicago.

In 1959 WERNECKE was investigated by Postal authorities for mailing letters with obscene statements contained therein. He was convicted in 1943 of the Selective Service Act and was a member of the German-American Bund. In 1960 a murder conspiracy conviction wherein WERNECKE had been convicted of conspiring to murder TADISHAU NICHOLAS was overruled by the Appellate Court of the State of Illinois, the Court claiming that there was insufficient evidence upon which to uphold WERNECKE's conviction.

The last reference in the Chicago files to WERNECKE is one wherein the Postmaster at Huntley, Illinois, describes WERNECKE as being an odd individual.

In view of the fact there is no specific allegation of violations within the Bureau's investigative jurisdiction and the background of WERNECKE, no further action is being taken in this matter and WERNECKE's letter is not being acknowledged.

GALE

February 16, 1961

Airtel

To: SAC, Chicago (65-582)

From: Director, FBI (61-8118) - 156

WILLIAM B. WERNECKE
INFORMATION CONCERNING
(CRIMINAL SECTION)

Reurairtel 2/8/61.

You are authorized to have two mature and experienced Agents contact Wernecke as suggested in reairtel and advise him that the matter he refers to does not come within the Bureau's primary investigative jurisdiction. He should also be advised that his past complaints alleging a WSTA violation were presented to the appropriate USA who declined prosecution.

In view of the nature of the allegations made by Wernecke against SA Bonner and the fact that he may continue to write letters containing such allegations to persons outside the Bureau you should immediately obtain an affidavit from SA Bonner concerning his past contacts with Wernecke.

The results of the interview with Wernecke and SA Bonner's affidavit should be forwarded to reach the Bureau by 2/22/61.

JAC:rte *ll*

(4) NOTE: Chicago has advised that Wernecke has written two communications to that office requesting investigation be conducted concerning "Playboy" magazine and Playboy Lounge alleging that the magazine and the Lounge are engaged in pornographic activity. His letter makes no specific allegations of files of either WSTA or ITOM. Wernecke in one letter requests that SA Bonner not be assigned this case as Wernecke had reason to believe Bonner is not acting properly in White Slave Matters and that he acts in "colution" with white slavers.

Chicago advised Wernecke is subject of numerous items of correspondence relating to Bombing Matters, Espionage, and Racial Matters in the Chicago Division. In August, 1958. Wernecke reported to SA Bonner

Tolson _____
Parsons _____
Mohr _____
Belmont _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
W.C. Sullivan _____
Tele. Room _____
Ingram _____
Gandy _____

MAILED 12
FEB 16 1961
COMM-FBI

52 MAR 6 1961

MAIL ROOM ☒ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

(Cont. Note Page 2)

PERM. FILES

that Werneke's common law wife had travelled interstate for immoral purposes with one Tadishau Nicholas. Chicago advises investigation failed to verify any information furnished by Werneke and USA Chicago, declined prosecution. As of 10/20/58, Werneke was under the care of a psychiatrist. He was convicted in 1943 for violation of Selective Service Act of 1940 and was a member of the German-American Bund.

F B I

Date: 2/8/61

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (61-8118)
 FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (65-582)
 SUBJECT: WILLIAM B. WERNECKE
 INFORMATION CONCERNING

Remyairtel 1/31/61.

Attached hereto are photostats of two letters received at the Chicago Office today from WILLIAM B. WERNECKE. One of the two letters contains numerous accusations relative to alleged misconduct on the part of SA JAMES F. BONNER of the Chicago Office. The second letter refers to the sending of obscenity through the mail relative to the operations of Playboy Magazine. *Wick*

Present indications are that WERNECKE will continue to send such letters to the Bureau and possibly will direct such communications outside the Bureau. As set out in referenced airtel, WERNECKE is believed to be mentally unstable and has recently been under the care of a psychiatrist for his mental condition.

SA BONNER categorically denies any misconduct on his part, any abusive or threatening language in connection with a white slave investigation wherein WERNECKE was the complainant, or any activity that could be considered to be indicative of any collusion on his part with any individual engaged in White Slave Traffic Act activities. *B*

Unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau, two agents will contact WERNECKE and explain to him the lack of a specific violation over which the Bureau has primary investigative jurisdiction relative to his

3 - Bureau (encls. 2)
 1 - Chicago
 HDS:njc
 (4) ENCLOSURE *2/15/61*

Approved: *James H. Gale*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

Per *Wick*

C. C. Wick

CRIME

61-8118-156
FEB 20 1961

PERS. FILE

CG 65-582

complaints regarding Playboy Magazine. WERNECKE will be advised that the White Slave Traffic Act violation he reported to this office was presented to the United States Attorney's Office for prosecutive opinion and the declination given by the United States Attorney's Office was in no way influenced nor was it interpreted by SA BONNER, and that such interpretations of the law are solely within the province of the United States Attorney's Office.

WERNECKE will be advised that SA BONNER is not now nor has he ever been in collusion with "White Slavers" nor was he ever abusive or threatening in his contact with WERNECKE. Every effort will be made to convince WERNECKE that this letter-writing activity should be discontinued.

GALE

February 3, 1961.

Agent in Charge
Chicago District
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Chicago, Illinois

Honorable Sir: I wrote you a short while ago, informing you of a White Slave Ring, operating in Chicago and nationwide. I asked you to take action against these criminals, and I further asked you to acknowledge my letter.

I have not received the requested reply from you and I therefore fear you did not receive my letter.

I now ^{urgently} ask you to reply to this letter and to assure me action has been taken.

I again want to inform you of the following:

(1.) The Playboy Lounge operated by Hugh Hefner and Victor Lundin, situated on the Near North Side

II

in Chicago Illinois. The Playboy Lounge in a known Prostitution House where young women are solicited nation wide and are introduced and sold into white slavery.

(3.) The Playboy Magazine is sold nation wide and is owned by the above mentioned Hugh Hefner and Victor Lounsbury. This Magazine publishes filthy pictures and literature, and advertises the nude pictures of the young women who are solicited at The Playboy Lounge. This Magazine is a violation of the U.S. Mails obscenity laws!

I have in my possession evidence which would obtain an indictment against, Hugh Hefner and Victor Lounsbury and the criminal Playboy Lounge and Playboy Magazine.

III

However I believe it is
your business to handle
matter.

I make six copies of all
letters I send you and these
are sent to U.S. Senators and
Church reform groups.

I again ask that F.B.I.
agent W. Bonner not be
assigned to this case as I
have reason to believe he may
act in collusion with white
slavery persons.

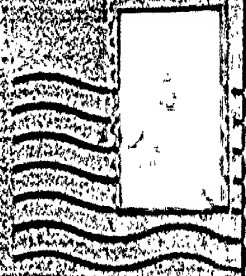
I most respectfully ask that
you acknowledge this letter
and inform me of your
intentions to look into this
criminal matter. I remain,

Very sincerely
yours

J. B. Conners
Rt. 1, Huntley
Illinois

SEARCHED <i>me</i>	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FEB 7 1961	
FBI - CHICAGO	

James B. Kennedy
P.O. 1, Huntley,
Illinois



Agent in Charge
Chicago District
F. B. I.
Monroe & Wells St.
Chicago,
Illinois.

[Handwritten signature]

February 3, 1961

Agent in Charge
Chicago District
F. B. I.
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Sir: About three years ago
I filed a charge against a
man for Violation of the Mann
Act and for transportation of
Stolen Property across the State
Line.

It seems F. B. I. agent
Mr. Bonner was assigned to
the case. I called Mr. Bonner at
the F. B. I. headquarters and
was intimidated by him.
Further Mr. Bonner threatened
me on the phone, and mocked
the pronunciation of my family
name. Mr. Bonner threatened
me for pressing a charge
against an exconvict and a
known thief.

and obstructed every effort
I made to bring information
to hear regarding the case.

Mr. Bonner made many
many efforts to cause me
to drop the case, and
threatened me if I did not.

I now make formal
charges against F. B. I Agent
Bonner for Misconduct, Obstruction
of Justice, and Intimidation.

I ask you ^{that} as as Agent
in Charge of the F. B. I
Chicago District to place
Agent Bonner before a Trial
Board of the Federal Bureau of
Investigation. I will appear
and prosecute this charge
under oath.

I believe it is an outrage
that a U.S. Citizen cannot
appeal to the F. B. I. without
being harassed and threatened.

III

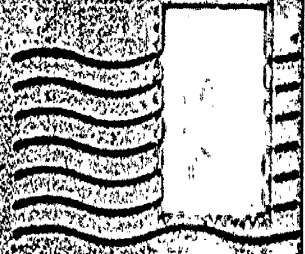
and abused by a corrupt
Agent.

Awaiting your early
reply, I remain,

Very truly yours
Tom B. Concke
Rt. 1, Huntley,
Illinois

SEARCHED <i>mm</i>	INDEXED <i>mm</i>
SERIALIZED <i>mm</i>	FILED <i>mm</i>
FEB 7 1961	
FBI - CHICAGO	

*John B. Kennedy
9th, Huntley Illinois*



*Agent in Charge
Chicago District
F. B. I.
Monroe and Wells St.
Chicago
Illinois*

[Handwritten mark]

February 16, 1961

9
AIRTEL

To: SAC, Chicago (65-582)

From: Director, FBI (61-8118) — 157
REC-91

WILLIAM B. WERNECKE
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Rebuairtel 2/16/61.

Enclosed herewith are two copies of a letter from Wernecke dated 2/10/61 which sets forth the same information as that contained in his letters to your office.

Wernecke's letter to the Bureau should be acknowledged at the time he is interviewed as authorized in referenced airtel.

Enclosures (2).

NOTE: Wernecke in his letter of 2/10/61 advised he has written two letters to the SAC, Chicago, charging that SA Bonner had threatened him and ordered him to withdraw a charge of WSTA against an ex-convict. Wernecke states he has received no answer from the Chicago Office. He also states that he now makes formal charges against Bonner requesting that he be given a hearing before whatever board hears and punishes FBI personnel. His specific charges against Bonner are (1) misconduct, (2) obstruction of justice, (3) intimidation of a citizen. Correspondent asks that his letter be acknowledged and advised why Chicago has ignored his earlier complaint.

By airtel dated 2/8/61, Chicago furnished copies of two letters received at that office from Wernecke. One letter contained numerous accusations relative to alleged misconduct on the part of SA James F. Bonner, Chicago Office. The second letter referred to the sending of obscenity through the mail relative to the operations of Playboy Magazine. Chicago advises

(note continued on page 2)

Tolson _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Belmont _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Malone _____
McGuire _____
Rosen _____
Trotter _____
Evans _____
W. C. Sullivan _____
Tele. Room _____
Ingram _____
Gandy _____

50 MAR 9 1961

JAC:ige(4)

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Asd Joe

Wernecke is subject of numerous items of correspondence relating to bombing matters, espionage, and racial matters in the Chicago Division. In August, 1958, Wernecke reported to SA Bonner that Wernecke's common law wife had traveled interstate for immoral purposes with one Tadisau Nicholas. Chicago advises investigation failed to verify any information furnished by Wernecke and USA, Chicago, declined prosecution. As of 10/20/58, Wernecke was under the care of a psychiatrist. He was convicted in 1943 for violation of Selective Service Act 1940 and was a member of the German-American Bund. Chicago airtel 2/8/61 requested authority for two Agents to contact Wernecke, explain to him lack of specific violation over which Bureau has jurisdiction, and advise Wernecke USA declined on his previous WSTA complaint.

Bureau airtel of 2/16/61 authorized Chicago to contact Wernecke and to furnish affidavit from SA Bonner concerning his past contacts with Wernecke. *Letter not being answered by Chicago 7/1/61*

COPY

February 10, 1961

J. Edgar Hoover
F.B.I.
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir:

I have written twice to the Agent In Charge of the F. B. I. Chicago office. In my letter I made a Direct Charge against an F. B. I. agent named "Bonner". I charged the man with threatening me, and ordering me to withdraw a charge against an Exconvict, the charge being (Violation of the Mann Act and Transportation of Stolen Property across the State Line)

I have received no answer from the Director of The Chicago F. B. I., my letter has so far been ignored.

I now make formal charge against F. B. I. agent Bonner and I request he be given a hearing before what ever Board or group which hears and punishes F. B. I. against for misconduct and crime.

My charge against Agent Bonner is (1) Misconduct, Obstruction of Justice, Intimidation of a Citizen. I will sign complaint against this man.

I ask that you acknowledge receipt of this formal complaint to you.

I ask you to inform me why the Chicago Director of the F. B. I. has ignored my complaint in a Contemptuous, rude, and ineffecient manner.

Thanking you for an early reply, I remain.

Very truly yours

Wm B. Wernecke
Rt. 1, Huntley
Illinois

EX 100
REC-91

61-8118-157
MAR 3 1961
3-20N
6-jan
8-24

February 10, 1961

J. Edgar Hoover
F. B. I.
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir; I have written twice
to the Agent in Charge of
the F. B. I. Chicago office.
In my letter I made a
Direct Charge against an
F. B. I. agent named "Bonner".
I charged the man with
"threatening me, and ordering me
to withdraw a charge against
an exconvict, the charge
being (Violation of the Mann Act
and Transportation of Stolen
Property across the State Line)

I have received no answer
from the Director of the Chicago
F. B. I. My letter has so
far been ignored.

I now make formal
charge against F. B. I. agent Bonner

2 cc memo
with
Airtel CG
7/16/61
JAC:gc

RECEIVED
FEB 14 1961
FBI - CHICAGO

II

and I request he be given a hearing before what ever Board or group which hears and punishes F. B. I. against for misconduct and crime.

My charge against Agent Bonner is (1) Misconduct, Obstruction of Justice, Intimidation of a Citizen. I will sign complaint against this man.

I ask that you acknowledge receipt of this formal complaint to you.

I ask you to inform me why the Chicago Director of the F. B. I. has ignored my complaint in a contemptuous, rude, and inefficient manner. I thank you for an early reply. I remain,

Very truly yours
J. B. Wenzelke
Rt. 1, Huntley
Illinois.

III.

P.S.

A copy of this letter is
being sent to two southern
Senators with whom I am
acquainted.

Chicago, Illinois
February 20, 1961

I, James F. Bonner, Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, being duly sworn, hereby make the following free and voluntary statement, knowing same may be used against me in a court of law. I have been assigned as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to the Chicago Office for the past five years.

In August, 1958, I had contact with William B. Wernecke, at which time Wernecke reported that his wife and one Dadishaw Nicholas had travelled in interstate commerce for immoral purposes.

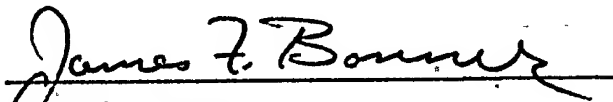
I conducted investigation relative to the purported allegations as furnished by Wernecke and presented these facts to the United States Attorney's Office relative to prosecutive opinion. I did not attempt to influence the judgment of the United States Attorney's Office relative to possible prosecution in this matter.

In my contact with William B. Wernecke I did not in any way intimidate him or attempt to intimidate him. I did not threaten him in any way nor did I mock the pronunciation of his family name.


I did not threaten Mr. Wernecke for pressing any charges against any person. I categorically deny having

obstructed him in any way in his furnishing information to any law enforcement agency nor did I make any efforts to cause him to drop any case. I in no way harassed, threatened or abused William B. Wernecke.


I have read this statement consisting of this and one other page and hereby affix my signature in that this statement is a true representation of my association and contact with William B. Wernecke.


Special Agent
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Sworn and subscribed before me on February 21, 1961,
at Chicago, Illinois


Special Agent
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Witness:


Special Agent
Federal Bureau of Investigation

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (61-8118)

DATE: 5/28/65

FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (65-582)

ATTN: IDENTIFICATION DIV.

SUBJECT: WILLIAM BERNARD WERNECKE
POTENTIAL BOMBING SUSPECT

Re Chicago letter dated 8/25/59.

Investigation reflects that WILLIAM BERNARD WERNECKE, FBI No. 2970391, is now deceased. It is requested that his name be deleted from the Single Fingerprint Explosives File.

2 - Bureau (RM)
1 - Chicago
JWT:mav
(3)

REC-42

61-8118-159

8 JUN 1 1965

EX-100

60 JUN 14 1965

EX-100

34

deleted LFBS
HLS

Colbert

L.F.B.

me [signature]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (61-8118)

DATE: 5/28/65

FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (65-582)

SUBJECT: WILLIAM BERNARD WERNECKE
POTENTIAL BOMBING SUSPECT

Re Chicago letter dated 8/5/59 entitled, "KLAN ORGANIZATIONS
HATE ORGANIZATIONS AND RACIAL INFORMANTS: RM; BM", bufile
157-1-9.

Current investigation reveals that WERNECKE recently
died. He has, therefore, been deleted as a potential bombing
suspect of this division. A separate communication has been
directed to the attention of the Identification Division deleting
WERNECKE from the Single Fingerprint Explosives File.

- ② - Bureau (RM)
- 3 - Chicago
 - (1 - 157-106)
 - (1 - 174-8)

JWT:mav
(5)

REC-19

ST-117

8 JUN 1 1965

70 JUN 16 1965

ONE
akb/ls

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

No Duplication Fees are charged for Deleted Page Information Sheet(s).

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 16

Page 6 ~ Referral/Direct

Page 7 ~ Referral/Direct

Page 12 ~ Referral/Direct

Page 13 ~ Referral/Direct

Page 14 ~ Referral/Direct

Page 33 ~ Duplicate

Page 34 ~ Duplicate

Page 35 ~ Duplicate

Page 36 ~ Duplicate

Page 37 ~ Duplicate

Page 38 ~ Duplicate

Page 39 ~ Duplicate

Page 40 ~ Duplicate

Page 41 ~ Duplicate

Page 64 ~ Duplicate

Page 65 ~ Duplicate